



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

OLD TESTAMENT NOTES AND NOTICES.

The catalogue of *Hebraica* and *Judaica* in the City of London Library, compiled by Rev. A. Löwy, is finished and printed. It covers over 170 pp. and will be published as soon as Mr. Löwy completes the index, on which he is now at work.

Joseph Halévy, Member of the Institute of France, during his recent visit to Adrianople, founded there a linguistic association. This association will publish a monthly review in Hebrew and Spanish after the style of the *Revue des Etudes Juives* of Paris.

Amherst College offers two prizes, each of \$50; one to the student who passes the best examination in Hebrew, special emphasis being laid on the student's ability to read Hebrew at sight; the other to that man who shall pass the best examination in biblical history and literature.

The first number of the *Orientalische Bibliographie*, edited by Prof. Dr. A. Müller, of Königsberg, with the assistance of Profs. Bezzenberger and Strack and Drs. Joh. Müller and K. Vollers, has appeared from Reuther's publishing house. This journal is to appear quarterly at the price of \$1.50 per year. Semitic bibliography will occupy an important place in each number.

Prof. Lyon, of Harvard, in an article on "Assyriology and the Old Testament" which has just appeared in the December *Unitarian Review*, presents very strongly the grounds for supposing that the early chapters of Genesis are after all borrowed at a late date from the Assyrian. Those who are not familiar with this side of the question will find the presentation at once interesting and startling.

In the December number of the *Andover Review*, Prof. S. R. Driver, in an article on "The Cosmogony of Genesis," defends the views expressed in the *Sunday School Times*, Dec. 18, 1886, and the *Expositor*, Jan., 1886, and criticizes Prof. Dana's article in the *Bibliotheca Sacra*, April, 1885. After a thorough examination of Prof. Dana's attempt to reconcile the scientific and biblical accounts of the creation, Prof. Driver claims, with reluctance, that Prof. Dana's theories leave the question unsettled.

The work of the Semitic department of the Johns Hopkins University is announced in a very full and attractive manner. It is interesting to note how much attention is given directly to work upon the Bible. In pursuance of a plan adopted last year, Professor Haupt's courses in Hebrew, Arabic, Chaldee and Syriac will be interrupted during the month of January, 1888, and all the time devoted to the study of Assyriology. Prof. Haupt will give twenty-four lectures on the Sumero-Akkadian language and literature. Two hours of instruction will be given daily by the Fellows to assist those who are following the course. There will also be a course in Ethiopic.

In the January *HEBRAICA* Prof. Chas. A. Briggs, of Union Theol. Seminary, contributes an article on "The Hebrew Tetrameter;" Prof. Henry P. Smith, of Lane Theological Seminary, a lengthy review of Ryssel's *Micah*, criticizing the

author's method of textual criticism; Prof. Isaac H. Hall, the original Syriac and a translation of a Syriac ritual of anointing; Prof. Paul Haupt, of Johns Hopkins University, will continue an article on Assyrian Phonetics; Dr. Cyrus Adler takes up the *Lāmēdh Hē* Verbs in Assyrian; Dr. Morris Jastrow, Jr., will furnish another article on "Jewish Grammarians of the Middle Ages." It will contain other articles of special interest, besides the usual book reviews. It will be issued about January 10.

The Correspondence School of The American Institute of Hebrew now has a sister. The London Sunday School Union has organized courses of Hebrew study by correspondence, under the charge of Rev. W. Gray Elmslie, Professor of Hebrew, Theological College, Bloomsbury, London. The names of the courses sound familiar: Elementary, Intermediate, and Progressive. The organization, however, differs quite radically from the American School, e. g., each course consists of only twelve lessons; the three courses only cover the ground of Davidson's Hebrew Grammar; the method of study is of course the old method, not the inductive; the lessons are sent out weekly, and the student is required to return the answers *weekly*, viz. every Saturday morning. With such a backing as can be given it by so strong a corporation as the London Sunday School Union, the new enterprise must prove successful. Why should not the thousands of the better classes of Sunday-school teachers in our land take up such study!

Not only has the New Testament been repeatedly translated into Hebrew, but commentaries on a number of New Testament books have also been written in the language of the Old Testament. The animus of all this work was not by any means a literary diletanteism or a scholastic exercise in the art of translating; but owes its origin to the well grounded conviction that the Jewish heart can best be reached for the truths of Christianity through the medium of their sacred tongue. It is one of the greatest achievements of modern missions that Delitzsch's translation of the New Testament has been scattered in tens of thousands of copies among the Jews of eastern Europe, and that the tangible results of this agitation are seen in the remarkable success of Jewish missions reported from there. For similar purposes Hebrew commentaries have been written. To our knowledge, the first of these was a commentary on the gospel of Luke, written by Frommann, a zealous co-laborer of Collenberg, of Halle. It is the work of the original *Institutum Judaicum* of a hundred years ago. The work remained a torso, and was deposited in the university library at Halle. There it was found some thirty years ago by Dr. Heinrich Raphael Biesenthal, one of the greatest Hebrew scholars of our day, who died in June of the present year, in Berlin, at the age of eighty-five. Himself a convert, he was in the employ of the London Society for Jewish Missions, and, as such, he completed the commentary on Luke, and later added commentaries of his own on Romans and on Hebrews, and one on Matthew was found in manuscript at his death. He was an excellent Talmudic scholar and a zealous Christian. His commentary on Hebrews, published in 1878, is remarkable in this, that he proceeds upon the hypothesis that St. Paul wrote this epistle in Hebrew; that in translating it into Greek some points of the original had been misinterpreted, and that a re-translation into Hebrew would restore the original meaning of the letter. These commentaries were eagerly read by many Jews, and Jewish converts in Mogador, in Morocco, sent Hebrew letters to Dr. Biesenthal, thanking him for his work in this regard.